

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the four separate drawing objections (paragraphs 1-4 on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(4), because the allegedly duplicated reference numerals 2, 8, 24 and 28 are, in fact, not duplicates; rather, the numbers identified by the Examiner appear adjacent diagonal lines and indicate the number of bits in the signal on the associated signal line.

In the enclosed replacement formal drawing sheet 2/5, the labels for blocks 35 and 36 have been amended to conform them more closely to the description in the specification, and previously omitted bit numbers have been added adjacent to corresponding bit indicator diagonal lines.

Applicant requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the objection to the Abstract of the Disclosure in view of the enclosed amended Abstract.

Applicant also requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the objection to the disclosure in view of the above corrective amendments to the specification. The specification also has been amended to correct other minor grammatical errors.

Only claims 1, 10, 11 and 8 are rejected on prior art under either 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) or 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and these claims have **effectively** been **canceled** in view of the above **cancellation of claim 2** and the incorporation of its limitation (as slightly modified by the description on page 8, lines 35-37 of Applicant's specification), into **claim 1**.

Therefore, the **amended claim 1**, together with its **dependent claims 3-12**, now should be allowable.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO. 09/886,025

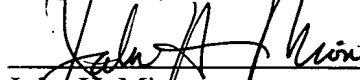
New claims 13, 14 and 15 are rewritten claims 3 (3/1), 9 (9/1) and 12 (12/1), respectively, and also now should be **allowable**.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of claims 1 and 3-15; however, if for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to **call the undersigned attorney** to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Applicant also files concurrently herewith an Excess Claim Fee Payment Letter (with a fee of \$200.00) to cover the cost of the one (1) excess independent claim generated by this Amendment.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, and any required fee for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or § 1.17 necessary to keep this application pending in the Patent and Trademark Office or credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please insert the enclosed formal drawing replacement sheet 2/5 in which, *inter alia*, the labels for blocks 36 and 35 have been amended more closely to match the terminology used in the specification, and in which bit numbers have been inserted on the four oblique lines which previously had no bit number indicator.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet - 2/5